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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,089	06/20/2003	Tetsuya Akiyama	10873.685USD1	9157
23552	7590	09/27/2004	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			HINDI, NABIL Z	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2655	

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/600,089

Applicant(s)

AKIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

NABIL Z HINDI

Art Unit

2655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-23 and 29-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-23 and 29-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/812,533.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/21/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

In response to applicant's filing dated April 05, 2004. The following action is taken:

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 19, 20, 22, 23, 29, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuroda (6370091).

The independent claims read on a multi-layer optical disk having a plurality of recording layers. Wherein the address data (pre-pit data) on the first recording layer do not overlap with the address data on the second recording layer. The reference in fig 5 shows the use of a multi layer optical disk having pre-pit data (address information) wherein the address data on the disc recording layer do not overlap with the address data on the second recording layer.

With respect to the limitation of claim 20. the use of "groove tracks" and "land tracks" are inherently present in any optical disk (CD, DVD...etc).

With respect to the limitations of claims 23 and 32 see fig 7.

With respect to the limitations of claims 22 and 31. See fig 7 having the disk structure wherein it inherently present in any optical disk that when data is recorded (pits are

Art Unit: 2655

formed on the disk) the change between the crystalline state to the amorphous state would change the disk reflectance and transmittance.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

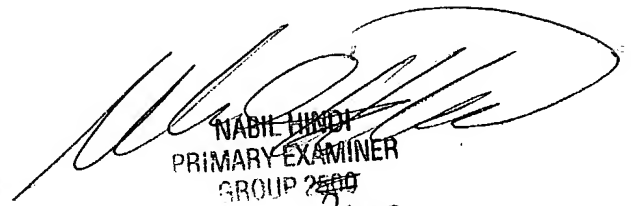
Claims 21, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda in view of Miyamoto et al (5936933).

The primary reference discloses the invention as analyzed above. However the reference does not disclose the use of address data at the boundary line between the land/groove tracks. The secondary reference discloses the use of address data at the boundary line between the groove/land tracks as shown in fig 2 for the purpose of increasing the data capacity on the disk. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the invention was made to use the teachings of the secondary reference and modify the primary reference. Such modification inserting the address data within the land/groove boundary is well established in the art in order to eliminate the use address data for each of the land and groove tracks. One of ordinary skilled in the art would have been motivated to use the teachings of the secondary reference for the purpose of increasing the data capacity on the disk.

Art Unit: 2655

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. 6002655.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to NABIL Z HINDI at telephone number (703) 308-1555.



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2655